A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES TO BEGIN DEPLOYMENT OF THE NORTH CAROLINA
FAMILIES ACCESSING SERVICES THROUGH TECHNOLOGY (NC FAST) CASE
MANAGEMENT FUNCTIONALITY FOR THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM AND
AGING AND ADULT SERVICES' PROGRAMS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR
THAT PURPOSE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1.(a) The Department of Health and Human Services (Department),
Division of Social Services (Division), shall resume deployment of the North Carolina Families
Accessing Services through Technology (NC FAST) system as it relates to case management
functionality for the child welfare system and aging and adult services' programs. The Division
shall deploy the child welfare case management component of the NC FAST system statewide
before July 1, 2022, as recommended in the Department of Health and Human Services’ "Child
Welfare Request for Information and Child Welfare Case Management Legislative Report" dated
September 14, 2020, and the Program Evaluation Division’s Report, "NC FAST Child Welfare
Case Management Software Demonstrates Adequate Functionality but Poor Usability," dated
June 12, 2020.

SECTION 1.(b) The Division shall enter into a contract to augment and enhance the
child welfare case management component of the NC FAST system before January 1, 2022. The
contract shall align with the recommendations developed by the Executive Advisory Committee
within the Department, with favorable consideration given to software currently deployed by
county departments of social services.

SECTION 1.(c) This section is effective when it becomes law.

SECTION 2. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services, the sum of seventeen million two
hundred sixty-two thousand eight hundred eighty-two dollars ($17,262,882) in nonrecurring
funds for the 2021-2022 fiscal year to implement the provisions of Section 1 of this act.

SECTION 3. Except as otherwise provided, this act becomes effective July 1, 2021.